

signed into law each of the past several years, with overwhelming support in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Accordingly, I urge my Senate colleagues to join me in supporting this important resolution.

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the resolution submitted by Senator SPECTER designating March 25, 2000 as Greek Independence Day. The Greek-American community has made significant contributions to the United States. It is in honor of those achievements that we recognize Greek Independence Day.

The ancient Greeks conceived the very notion of democracy when they placed the power to govern in the hands of the people. Our founding fathers relied on the political and philosophical experiences of ancient Greece to create the government we have today. As a result, America's close relationship with Greece is long and historic. I believe that James Monroe best expressed America's feelings toward Greece when he said, "The mention of Greece fills the mind with the most exalted sentiments and arouses in our bosoms the best feeling of which our nature is susceptible."

As Greece fought for its independence in the 1820s, the American Revolution became a driving ideal. In fact, Greek intellectuals translated our own Declaration of Independence to use as their statement of freedom. By the end of World War II, Greece was one of our most important allies in the region as it fought to stem the Communist tide across Europe. In 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower appropriately noted this effort when he said, "... Greece asked no favor except the opportunity to stand for the rights which it believed, and it gave to the world an example of battle, a battle that thrilled the hearts of all free men and free women everywhere."

Today, we know that Greece is one of only three nations in the world which has allied itself with the United States in every major international conflict this century. Through immigration, we have grown even closer. During the early 1900s, one out of every four Greek males between the ages of 15 and 45 emigrated to the United States. Greek-Americans have the highest median educational attainment among all American ethnic nationalities, and they are now a successful and integral part of this country.

The relationship between Greece and America is a unique one which has survived the test of war and the looming threat of Communism. We owe a great deal to Greece, and to its people who have chosen to make America their home. Greek civilization touches our lives as Americans and enhances the cultural existence of this great nation. I hope my colleagues will join me in expressing our gratitude to Greece and all Greek-Americans for the role they have played in building this country.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 252—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT REBIYA KADEER, HER FAMILY MEMBER AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATE, SHOULD BE RELEASED BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. WELLSTONE submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

## S. RES. 252

Whereas members of the Uighur minority population in Xinjiang, China, are subject to ongoing repression and violations of their internationally recognized rights of free expression, association, and belief;

Whereas on August 11, 1999, the Government of the People's Republic of China arbitrarily detained Rebiya Kadeer, a prominent and respected Uighur businesswoman well-known in the United States;

Whereas from 1993 to 1998, Ms. Kadeer was an elected member of the Provincial People's Political Consultative Conference in Xinjiang;

Whereas in 1995, Ms. Kadeer was a delegate to the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing;

Whereas the police have detained Ms. Kadeer previously and kept her under close surveillance, threatening her because of the alleged separatist activities of her husband, who came to the United States in 1996 and was granted political asylum after publishing articles critical of the Chinese Government;

Whereas on September 2, 1999, Chinese authorities formally charged Ms. Kadeer with "illegally offering state secrets across the border", and she is currently detained in Urumqi, the capital of Xinjiang;

Whereas Ms. Kadeer's son, Ablikim Abdyirim, and her secretary, Kahrman Abdukirim, were also arbitrarily detained by Chinese security forces in August 1999 in Urumqi, without any justification or evidence of their involvement in criminal activities of any kind; and

Whereas on November 20, 1999, Ablikim Abdyirim was sent for 2 years to the Wulabai Reeducation Through Labor School, without charge or judicial review, in clear violation of international human rights standards, and Kahrman Abdukirim received a 3-year sentence in the same facility: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the President should express to the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China the sense of the Senate that Ms. Kadeer, her family members and business associate, should be immediately and unconditionally released.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, China's terrible treatment of ethnic minority Uighurs, a Muslim community in the northwestern province of Xinjiang, has not received the same level of international attention as that of the Tibetans. The Uighurs are also subject to ongoing repression and violations of their internationally recognized rights of free expression, association and belief. The Chinese government is cracking down on a separatist movement in Xinjiang as part of its overall strategy of maintaining "stability" at all costs. According to human rights organizations such as Amnesty International and Human

Rights Watch, over the past year China has used draconian measures including public sentencing rallies, long prison terms, and—alarmingly—a rising number of executions of suspected "splittists."

In an apparent attempt to stop the flow of information overseas about this crackdown, Chinese security officials arbitrarily detained a prominent Uighur businesswoman, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, this past August in Urumqi, the capital of Xinjiang. Her husband is a U.S. resident who broadcasts on Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America, championing the cause of his people.

For years, Ms. Kadeer has been praised by the Chinese government for her efforts to promote development in Xinjiang, including a project helping Uighur women develop their own businesses. She has also been praised in the Wall Street Journal for her business savvy. She owns a department store in Urumqi as well as a profitable trading company.

But now she has been put out of business, is being held in prison awaiting trial, charged last September with "illegally offering state secrets across the border." Even worse, her son and her secretary were also detained and have already been sent to a labor camp. If Ms. Kadeer is convicted, she could be sent to prison for many years.

Ms. Kadeer's case demonstrates that even business people in China are not safe from the arbitrary use of state power. As China tries to become a member of the World Trade Organization, this reality is crucial to bear in mind—both for Chinese and foreign investors.

I urge my colleagues to call on the President to seek the immediate, unconditional release of Ms. Kadeer, her son, and secretary. Today I offer a sense of the Senate resolution urging their release, and hope it can be considered quickly and adopted unanimously by this body.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 2, 2000, in open session, to receive testimony on the situation in Bosnia and Kosovo.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 2, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. to hear testimony regarding the status of Internal Revenue Service Reform.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,  
AND PENSIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, Subcommittee on Public Health, be authorized to meet for a hearing on "Gene Therapy: Promoting Patient Safety" during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 2, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 2, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. To hold an open hearing on intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 2, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. To hold an closed hearing on intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

## HONORING JIM ATKINSON

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a true Montana hero—Jim Atkinson. His death, after a long battle with leukemia last December, was a great loss to me personally and to the State of Montana.

You know, we always talk about how important education is. Especially here in Congress, we talk about how children are the future and that we need to invest in that future, and that's true. But Jim Atkinson did more than just talk about education; he lived it. He was on the front lines every day, as a principal at Charlo Elementary and later as the vice president of the Montana Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals.

As an Administrator in the Montana school system, Jim was instrumental in the effort to modernize our State's schools. He realized quickly how important technology would be to students, and set up a computer lab for the Charlo school. Without people like Jim all our talk about education wouldn't amount to anything. His foresight and dedication to education in Montana made him a true hero. But there was more to Jim than just his job.

Originally a native of Abington, PA, it was the outdoors and the land that brought Jim to Montana. He was an accomplished mountain climber and fly fisherman. Montana's rugged peaks and

blue ribbon trout streams had a hold on Jim's soul. And Jim was a true family man. He is survived by his wife, Luan, and his two sons, Sam and Tyson.

Mr. President, Jim was a young man. He was only forty-eight at the time of his death. He spent his life serving his community, educating children, raising his family and enjoying the land of our majestic State. Many men would be lucky to accomplish this much in a hundred years. I expect Jim's legacy will last much longer than that. •

RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW E.  
SCHLIMME

• Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, across America, buildings are named for great Americans and fallen heroes so that the living might memorialize the legacy of those who have died. Petty Officer 3rd Class Matthew E. Schlimme was just such an American. He was an extraordinary hero in service to his nation and fellow man.

Raised on a farm in Southeast Missouri, Matthew knew the value of hard work, the necessity for respect and consideration of others, and the need to overcome obstacles. One such obstacle he had from an early age was a fear of the water. Not only did Matthew join the U.S. Coast Guard to overcome his fear, but in doing so he served his country and saved a life.

On February 12, 1997, Officer Schlimme and two other Coast Guardsmen were thrown overboard in 24-foot seas while attempting to rescue a sailboat. Before going overboard, Schlimme was able to buckle in Seaman Apprentice Benjamin Wingo. Mr. Wingo was the sole survivor. Officer Schlimme lost his life, but gained the thanks of a nation.

Mr. Schlimme's parents, Larry and Haroletta Schlimme, of Burfordville, Missouri, were present at the January 27, 2000, dedication of the Matthew E. Schlimme Industrial Facility in St. Louis. The building will provide a production site for navigation equipment and will house the St. Louis Electronic Support Detachment.

Mr. and Mrs. Schlimme can be proud of their son's bravery and courage. His act of heroism has been remembered in the hearts of many Missourians. All of Missouri is deeply grateful to Officer Schlimme for his bravery and ultimate sacrifice. •

## MAESTRO YURI TEMIRKANOV

• Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I am most pleased to join with the citizens of Maryland, Governor Parris Glendening, and other colleagues in government in welcoming Maestro Yuri Temirkanov, one of the most talented and gifted conductors of our time, as the new Music Director of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

Maestro Temirkanov's inspired energy, imagination, and popularity, coupled with the renowned excellence and stellar reputation of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, promises Marylanders and the nation an unprecedented artistic combination. As the eleventh Music Director in the Orchestra's 83-year history, Maestro Temirkanov will oversee all artistic programming of the BSO, conduct twelve subscription concerts, the opening fundraising gala, any recordings, and will lead tours as well.

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, through its critically-acclaimed concert tours, Grammy Award-winning recordings, and cutting-edge concert formats, has earned deserved respect in the world of classical music. The addition of Maestro Temirkanov takes the BSO to the highest echelon of musical excellence and achievement. A recent article from the Baltimore Sun included the following quote from Mikhail Baryshnikov:

Baltimore audiences can look forward to special excitement, because Yuri Temirkanov is one of the truly inspired maestros of today.

Mr. President, as a strong supporter of the arts, and on behalf of the citizens of Maryland, I take great pleasure in welcoming Maestro Temirkanov to the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and ask that recent articles from the Baltimore Sun, Baltimore Magazine, and the Washington Post, be printed in the RECORD.

The articles follow:

[From the Baltimore Sun, Jan. 21, 2000]

TEMIRKANOV POWERFUL IN BSO DEBUT

(By Terry Teachout)

So how does a brand-new music director go about making a really big impression at his inaugural concert?

Yuri Temirkanov, who took the helm of the *Baltimore Symphony Orchestra* last night, did it by detonating a performing of Gustav Mahler's 90-minute-long "Resurrection" Symphony at Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, aided and abetted by soprano Janice Chandler, mezzo-soprano Nancy Maullsby and the Baltimore Symphony Chorus. Short of inviting John Waters to set off nuclear weapons at midnight in the Chesapeake Bay, you can't get much bigger than that.

The 61-year-old Temirkanov is not a household name outside his native Russia, where he took over the legendary St. Petersburg Philharmonic in 1968 (back when it was the Leningrad Philharmonic) and led it by all accounts with great distinction.

But he has already made waves in Baltimore. Several inches of snow didn't stop local music lovers from turning out in force to hear his official debut, and Mayor Martin O'Malley was on hand to declare him an honorary citizen of the city, expressing the hope that "what is now great will become even greater."

Though he's a certified performer, the major is hardly a full-fledged music critic. Still, I think he's onto something. Temirkanov gave us a "Resurrection" that was weighty, emphatic, deliberate and eloquent, with a resplendent finale full of great sunbursts of sound. What's more, the BSO